

## Message Text

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ORIGIN NODS-00

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /001 R

DRAFTED BY NEA/ARN:TCAROLAN:HE

APPROVED BY NEA:ALATHERTON

S/S-O J. HOGANSON

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY AMMAN IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T STATE 225113

NODIS

E.O. 11652: XGDS-3

TAGS: PFOR MASS US JO

SUBJECT: HAWK MISSILES

REFS: AMMAN 6383 AND 6395

FOR AMBASSADOR FROM ATHERTON

1. WASHINGTON POST SEPT 21, UNDER HEADLINE "JORDANIANS SAY THEY STILL REJECT US TERMS," PROMINENTLY FEATURED ON PAGE 18 A JONATHAN RANDAL ARTICLE QUOTING "JORDANIAN SOURCE" AS STATING THAT US CONDITIONS GOVERNING HAWK SALE REMAIN UNACCEPTABLE TO GOJ DESPITE STATE DEPT ASSURANCES THAT THE DEAL IS BACK ON TRACKS. RANDAL REPORTED HIS SOURCE TOOK ISSUE WITH US OFFICIAL ASSERTIONS TO EFFECT THAT "MISUNDERSTANDING" HAD BEEN RESOLVED, INSISTING INSTEAD THAT THERE HAS BEEN NO RPT NO CHANGE IN GOJ'S POSITION THAT "NOT A SINGLE CONDITION" CONTAINED IN PRESIDENT FORD'S SEPT 17 LETTERS TO CONGRESS IS ACCEPTABLE TO JORDAN.

2. WHILE STILL CONTENDING THAT SUCH CONDITIONS "IMPINGE ON OUR NATIONAL DIGNITY," RANDAL'S SOURCE REPORTEDLY

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SUGGESTED THAT HAWK SALE MIGHT YET BE CONSUMMATED "IF

BOTH SIDES MAKE SMALL CHANGES," ALTHOUGH HE DECLINED TO ELABORATE ON WHAT THOSE CHANGES MIGHT BE. ARTICLE ADDED THAT US EMBASSY OFFICIALS IN AMMAN DECLINED COMMENT ON

"WHAT APPEARED TO BE JORDAN'S REBUTTAL" TO EARLIER STATE DEPT CLAIMS THAT TERMS FOR HAWK SALE CONTAINED IN PRESIDENT'S LETTERS WOULD BE ADHERED TO. RANDAL QUOTED "OBSERVERS" IN AMMAN, HOWEVER, AS SUGGESTING THAT CURRENT US TACTICS MAY BE DICTATED BY DESIRE TO AVOID ANTAGONIZING CONGRESS BEFORE EXPIRATION OF 20-DAY CONGRESSIONAL NOTIFICATION PERIOD ON SEPT 22.

3. FOREGOING CLEARLY APPEARS TO HAVE BEEN BASED ON BACKGROUND COMMENTS MADE TO RANDAL BY PRIMIN RIFAI. WE NOTE IT GOES WELL BEYOND WHAT RIFAI TOLD YOU WOULD BE REFLECTED IN SEPT 21 PRESS PLAY IN AMMAN. IN SO DOING, IT THREATENS TO CREATE PRECISELY THAT SITUATION TO WHICH CASE AND BINGHAM REFERRED IN OUR TALKS WITH THEM ON SEPT 19 (PARA 3 STATE 224506), FEAR OF WHICH LED US TO URGE THAT GOJ COOPERATE IN KEEPING LID ON FURTHER PUBLIC PRONOUNCEMENTS. WE WILL HAVE TO SEE WHAT PROBLEMS THIS LATEST GOJ-INSPIRED STORY WILL CAUSE FOR US TOMORROW, BUT WE THINK YOU SHOULD BE FOREWARNED THAT ITS IMPACT HERE MAY PROVE THAT WE ARE NOT YET OUT OF THE WOODS RE HAWK CONTROVERSY. AT MINIMUM, WE SHALL PROBABLY BE FORCED TO REITERATE NOT ONLY THAT WE ARE PROCEEDING AS PLANNED ON HAWK DEAL BUT ALSO THAT WE ARE PROCEEDING ON BASIS OF ASSURANCES CONTAINED IN PRESIDENT'S LETTERS TO CONGRESS. I WOULD NOT RULE OUT CONGRESSIONAL REQUEST THAT WE AGAIN RECONFIRM THIS WITH GOJ.

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## Message Attributes

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**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
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**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 21 SEP 1975  
**Decaption Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Decaption Note:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
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**Disposition Authority:** KelleyW0  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
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**TAGS:** PFOR, MASS, US, JO  
**To:** AMMAN  
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